

# Fact Sheet

## Headquarters, 21st Theater Sustainment Command (TSC)

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## Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base Passenger Transit Center, Romania

### What is being said about MK:

*(MK Airbase) demonstrates the United States' and Romania's broader defense cooperation, which is becoming even more important in the wake of Russia's actions in Ukraine. –U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel*

*The combined and joint team at the Transit Center Mihail Kogalniceanu (TCMK) truly performs as a "Team of Teams." Our Romanian partners, in concert with an Army Sustainment Task Force, Air Force Expeditionary Air Squadron and the Black Sea Area Support Team come together every day to support the total mission and national requirements. This expeditionary effort rivals operations conducted in permanent locations and is executed by the finest set of professionals with whom I've been associated. Our mission is clear, and we execute in unison to complete bi-directional passenger movements and support the CENTCOM Theater. All of our efforts are made possible due to the strength of our relationship with our host nation – Romania. The compounding effects realized by the combined and joint team means there's nothing that Team TCMK can't accomplish. – Col. Ronald D. "Dave" Brown Jr., 21<sup>st</sup> TSC G3/5/7.*

### FACTS:

- The 21st Theater Sustainment Command has about 360 personnel on the ground at MK Airbase providing services including construction, personnel processing, communications support and life support.
- The first transit flight from CONUS carrying Soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division arrived on February 2, 2014.
- The 21st Theater Sustainment Command is currently supporting 30,700 American servicemembers still deployed to Afghanistan (as of Aug. 4, 2014).
- The 21st Theater Sustainment Command processed 563 missions departing for and arriving from Afghanistan from Jan. 1 through Aug. 5, 2014.
- Since opening the new passenger transit center in January 2014, 21st TSC Soldiers and partners have processed 100,000 Soldiers, helping direct essential personnel safely and efficiently into and out of theater operations (as of Sep. 22, 2014).
- More than 2,100 tons of baggage and individual gear were shipped into theater between Jan. 1 and Aug. 5, 2014.
- The Dining Facility at MK Transit Center, operated by KBR, has served 246,305 total meals from Feb. 11 to June 30, 2014.
- MK Air Base can handle 2,000 service members (1,000 moving into theater, 1,000 returning from theater) and about 3,000 tons of associated cargo and baggage per day.
- Number of body armor plates (ESAPI) inspected 60,332 and 8,986 plates exchanged (as of Aug. 5, 2014).
- The 21st Theater Sustainment Command's 18th Engineer Brigade constructed four major new structures, including a new transit center and customs facility. The facilities accommodate up to 300 personnel at a time, which is commensurate with the number who arrive on full aircraft.
- The US portion of MK Airbase (PFOS (650) & TFOS (200)) spans 850 acres (= 1.32 sq. mile//1 sq. mile = 640 acres). This is comparable to Clay Kaserne, USAG Wiesbaden which is a grand total of 684 acres (including the air field).
- The run way at MK Air Base is a single run way (11,483 feet).

### STREAMLINED OPERATIONS:

- Average time for deploying into the theater from MK Airbase is less than 36 hours compared to the previous average of 48 hours at Manas, Kyrgyzstan.
- Average time of redeployment is 40 hours at MK Airbase, compared to more than 72 hours at Manas, Kyrgyzstan.
- Startup construction costs for MK Airbase are \$25 million, compared to \$126 million at Manas.
- Annual operating costs (as of July 8, 2014) are \$18 million per year for MK Airbase, compared to \$80 million at Manas, Kyrgyzstan.

**As of September 22, 2014**